

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Prior to this amendment, claims 1-9, 18-38, 47-68, and 77-89 were pending. In this amendment, no claims are amended or canceled. Claims 90-93 are added. Thus, after entry of this amendment, claims 1-9, 18-38, 47-68, and 77-93 will be pending.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e), Ashmore

Claims 1-9, 18-38, 47-68, 77-93 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Ashmore (Patent # 6,738,630). However, the priority date of Ashmore is after the priority date of the present application.

Ashmore was filed on April 10, 2001. Note that Ashmore does not claim priority to any other application. Thus, the earliest priority date for Ashmore is April 10, 2001.

The present application was filed August 16, 2001. However, the present application claims priority to U.S. Provisional Patent Applications 60/225,647 filed August 16, 2000, 60/231,576 filed September 11, 2000, and 60/256,325 filed December 19, 2000.

The provisional filed August 16, 2000 provides support for the independent claims. For example, support for independent claim 1 can be found, for example, on page 2, which states:

The WebNum is referred to a database at the switch that maps the WebNum back to a hostname within the Internet domain structure. For example, the number 877 may map in the database to the hostname xyz.com, as:

877 = xyz.com

Thus, the present application has a priority date of August 16, 2000, which is earlier than April 10, 2001 (the priority date of Ashmore). Thus Ashmore is not available as prior art under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e).

For at least this reasons, claims 1-9, 18-38, 47-68, and 77-93 are allowable over Ashmore.

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PATENT

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance and an action to that end is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 415-576-0200.

Respectfully submitted,

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